

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH

REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR - 1941.

D. ROCYN JONES,

C.B.E., K.St., J.P., M.B., D.P.H.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER.

County Hall,

NEWPORT, Mon.



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R E V I E W
of the
GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS
of the
C O U N T Y O F M O N M O U T H .

For the Year ended December 31st, 1941.

SCOPE OF THE REPORT.

Under Article 16 (5) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and in accordance with Circulars 1961 (Wales) and 2067 (Wales) of the Ministry of Health (Welsh Board of Health), the Annual Report for the year 1941 has been materially shortened, many items being omitted entirely. Generally, it has been restricted to Vital Statistics and brief comments on vital matters.

The progress of many schemes which were in various stages of preparation has necessarily been seriously interfered with as a result of the outbreak of war.

ALTERATIONS TO BOUNDARIES.

The boundaries of the Administrative County remained unaltered throughout the year.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres - 340,110)			
Population (1931) Census, 345,755			
do.	Estimated 1941	- 329,020	
do.	Estimated 1941 (for use with records of births)		329,020
do.	do.	(for use with records of Infectious diseases and deaths)	329,020
Rateable value		£1,136,956	
Sum represented by a penny rate £4,360			

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The County of Monmouth is partly industrial and partly agricultural. The Rhymney, Sirhowy, Western and Eastern Valleys are thickly populated coal mining districts, in which are also Iron, Steel and Tinsplate works. In addition there are coal by-products plants in some of these districts. The Eastern and Southern portions of the County are practically agricultural communities.

Unemployment has considerably diminished, but in other directions the war has seriously interfered with the general amenities of the County.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Vital Statistics for England and Wales for the year 1941, compiled by the Registrar-General are as in the subjoined table. The Monmouthshire figures are given for the purpose of comparison.

	Birth rate per 1,000 Population.				Death rate per 1,000 living		Deaths under one year per 1,000 births	
	Live Births 1941	Still Births 1941	Live Births 1940	Still Births 1940	1941	1940	1941	1940
ENGLAND AND WALES	14.2	0.51	14.6	0.55	12.9	14.3	59.0	55.
126 County Boroughs and great Towns, including London	14.7	0.58	16.0	0.64	14.9	15.8	71.0	61.
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at census 1931)	16.4	0.60	15.7	0.55	13.0	12.8	56.0	54.
London	12.3	0.44	13.7	0.44	16.3	17.8	68.0	50.
MONMOUTHSHIRE	08.9	0.33	16.5	0.90	12.11	13.4	70.48	67.

In all cases the estimated population as supplied by the Registrar General have been used for the purpose of this table.

BIRTHS. The number of births assigned to the Administrative County for 1941 was 5,394 made up as follows:-

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Urban Districts	2366	2256	91	74	2457	2330	4787
Rural Districts	294	285	12	16	306	301	607
	2660	2541	103	90	2763	2631	5394

There were 156 more births in 1941 than in 1940 when there were 5,238 births. In 1939 there were 4,835 births, in 1938 there were 4,944 births, in 1937, there were 4,861 births.

The birth rate for 1941 (16.7 per 1,000 persons living) is .2 higher than that for 1940 (16.5).

The birth rate for England and Wales for the year 1941 was 14.2

For the Urban districts of the County the birth rate was 16.8 per 1,000 for 1941, and for the Rural Districts, 13.5 compared with 17.03 and 13.3 respectively and in 1940 and 16.4 and 12.2 in 1939.

The number of births of illegitimate children was 193 which gives a rate of 35.78 per 1,000 of the total births, and .59 per 1,000 population. Last year the number was 168 equal to 32.07 per 1,000 births and .52 per 1,000 of population. For the year 1939 the figures were 159 equal to 32.8 per 1,000 births and .52 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS. The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County as shown by the Registrar-General's table, was 4,001, as compared with 4,263 in 1940, 3,921 in 1939, 3,734 in 1938 and 2,944 in 1937.

Deaths of persons temporarily residing in the County on account of the war are not transferable to areas of usual residence.

The general death rate calculated upon the specially computed estimate of population submitted by the Registrar-General 28,020, works out at 12.11 per 1,000 living. In 1940 the rate was 13.4 in 1939, the rate was 12.8 and in 1937, 12.6. For the Urban Districts the rate for 1941 was 12.2 and for the Rural Districts, 11.8.

The County Death rate of 12.11 per 1,000 of population shows a decrease on 1940, when the rate was 13.4, and is higher than that for England and Wales, 12.9

STILLBIRTHS. The number of stillbirths recorded during the year was 143, compared with 285 in 1940 and 236 in 1939. The rate per 1,000 of population for 1941 is .74, in 1940 it was .90 and in 1939, .85. The rate continues to compare unfavourably with that for England and Wales, which for 1940 was .51.

WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH. The number of deaths registered during the year from accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition was 22, 4 from puerperal sepsis and 18 from other causes associated with childbirth. This is equal to a rate of 4.08 per 1,000 live births. This rate shows an increase on the 1940 figure which was 2.96 per 1,000 live births. The 1941 rate is still higher than that for England and Wales 2.16.

INFANT MORTALITY. The total number of deaths under one year of age throughout the Administrative County was 380, 334 in the Urban Districts and 46 in the Rural Districts.

The rate per 1,000 live births was 70.48 an increase of .58 upon the figures for 1940 which was 69.9

In the Urban Districts the rate was 69.8 per 1,000 births, and in the Rural Districts 75.8 per 1,000 births.

In 1940 the Infantile Mortality rate was 69.9, in 1939, 61.2 in 1938, 55.8., in 1937, 63.9.

The rate for England and Wales was 59.0.

The average infantile mortality rate for the 25 years 1891 - 1915, was 137.4 The average rate for the 24 years 1916 - 1940 was 69.1

The number of deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age was 20, or 3.7 per 1,000 of all births, and 072.5 per 1,000 of illegitimate births. Last year the number of deaths was 18 or 3.3 per 1,000 of all births, and 107.1 per 1,000 of illegitimate births.

The measures adopted by the County Council for the reduction of Infantile Mortality are dealt with in the Report upon Maternity and Child Welfare for the year 1941.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of death	Urban Districts	Rural Districts	Administrative County	Rate per
				1,000 Births
Infectious Diseases	20	3	23	4.3
Diarrhoeal Diseases	24	1	25	4.6
Wasting Diseases	158	28	186	34.5
Respiratory Diseases	89	7	96	17.8
Tubercular Diseases	2	0	2	0.4
Other Causes	41	7	48	8.9
TOTALS	334	48	380	70.5

The number of deaths in the Administrative County from the following diseases was :-

Measles - all ages 21

Whooping Cough - all ages 11

Diarrhoea - under 2 years of age 33

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The accompanying table gives details of the work carried out in the County Laboratory for the year 1941, and also the figures for 1940.

The Laboratory carries out pathological and bacteriological work for the administrative County, and continues to undertake work for Authorities outside the Administrative County.

The total number of specimens examined shows a considerable increase on the previous year. The increase is only partially due to the larger number of diphtheria swabs examined.

Table showing nature of specimens submitted and the result thereof :-

	1940			1941		
	No. Pos.	No. Neg.	Grand Total	No. Pos.	No. Neg.	Total exam.
Wassermann Test for Syphilis	696	1395	2091	755	1729	2484
Complement Fixation Test for Gonorrhoea	201	396	597	84	262	346
Wears and Urines for Gonococcus	648	3405	4053	786	3702	4488
Medium for Spirochaeta Pallidum	29	65	94	70	73	143
for Tuberculosis Physicians for T.B.	328	1170	1498	404	1270	1674
County Cases for T.B. (General Practitioners).	46	398	444	55	536	591
Concentration Method for T.B.	-	2	2	-	-	1
for cultivation as well as T.B.	-	2	2	-	-	1
Coat Nasal and Ear Swabs for Diphtheria	-	-	37	-	-	52
Cerebro Spinal Fluid	1734	5509	7243	1258	6757	8015
Widal Reaction for Typhoid Fever etc.	13	42	55	47	75	122
Tests for Ringworm	10	21	31	9	21	30
Examination from Eye	-	-	56	-	-	21
Examination (complete examination).	-	-	315	-	-	237
Examination	-	-	97	-	-	109
Examination	-	-	51	-	-	62
Examination	-	-	59	-	-	61
Food Culture	-	-	15	-	-	24
Examination	-	-	1101	-	-	535
Examination	-	-	488	-	-	448
Food Count	-	-	334	-	-	712
Examination	-	-	58	-	-	59
Cerebro Spinal Fluid	-	-	49	-	-	59
Food Grouping	-	-	30	-	-	865
Examination for Microscopical Exam.	-	-	117	-	-	207
Food-Sugar Estimation	-	-	145	-	-	177
Food Urea Estimation	-	-	97	-	-	134
Examination-Sugar Estimation	-	-	189	-	-	127
Examination-Urea Estimation	-	-	49	-	-	127
St Moal	-	-	57	-	-	151
Examination	-	-	208	-	-	1109
Examination for Bacteriological Exam.	-	-	85	-	-	213
Examination for Bacteriological and Chemical Examination	-	-	83	-	-	86
Examination	-	-	-	-	-	-
Examination Roadside and School Samples	-	-	302	-	-	440
Examination Samples	-	-	472	-	-	324
Examination Chemical Examination	-	-	59	-	-	-
Examination Ministry of Agriculture	-	-	289	-	-	79
Examination Biological Examination	-	-	-	-	-	-
Examination Miscellaneous Milk Samples	-	-	185	-	-	144
Examination Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-
Examination Animal Inoculation	-	-	958	-	-	592
TOTAL	-	-	22,133	-	-	25223

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 and 1938.

The number of renewals of Accredited Milk Licences for 1941, were 76 to produce and 6 to produce and bottle.

Renewals of Tuberculin Tested licences to produce milk number 62, while 10 holders renewed their licences to produce and bottle milk.
Agricultural Act, 1937.

Attestation standard was reached by 165 herds in the County during the year. The figure was 165 in 1940.

The licence of Attestation is granted by the Ministry of Agriculture.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Monmouthshire Nursing Association of which Lady Mather Jackson is the Honorary Secretary continues to do good work. The Association is subsidised by the County Council. Midwifery work in the rural areas and agricultural townships for the Council in accordance with the scheme prepared by virtue of the Midwifery Act, 1936, is also performed by the County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There was no change in ambulance facilities in the County during the year, neither as regards the transport of infectious nor of non-infectious cases, except the inauguration of the A.R.P. Emergency Ambulance Services to deal with casualties resulting from enemy action.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The County Council has established 41 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in this County and 19 Ante-natal Clinics.

The County Education Committee has provided 11 School Clinics.

One war-time day nursery (Oxford House) was taken over from the Risca Urban District Council on the 1st November, 1941. Six more nurseries are to be opened in 1942.

The Tuberculosis Visiting Stations are detailed in previous reports.

There is one Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, details of which will be found later in this report.

The County Council has established 8 Clinics for the treatment of Orthopaedic Cases at Newport, Pengam, Crumlin, Trodegar, Pontypool, Monmouth, Chepstow and Abertillery. The Central Orthopaedic Clinic is at Newport, at which massage, electric treatment and remedial exercises are given.

MEDICAL CONSULTATION CLINIC.

This clinic was opened on 12th April, 1940, for the consultation of cases referred by District Medical Officers and by the Assistant Medical Officers of the County Staff, as well as cases referred by General Practitioners. The establishment of this Clinic has been of an inestimable value as it has placed within the reach of poor people the advice and treatment of a first class Physician.

Dr. Ivor Davies, M.D., F.R.C.P., the Senior Physician to the Infirmary, Cardiff, and Lecturer in Clinical Medicine for the Welsh National School of Medicine was unanimously appointed Consultant Physician, and he holds at least fifteen Clinics every year for this purpose. The attendance at these has been on an average 150 cases which are a sufficient number to enable adequate investigation to be given to each case. The Medical profession in Carmarthenshire and the patients themselves have been complimentary and grateful for the services rendered.

HOSPITALS.

Full details of the Hospital Services, Public and Voluntary have been given in previous reports.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.

The Local Government Act, 1929, has been responsible for the reduction in the number of Institutions needed for Institutional care of poor persons. The following are the Institutions in use and administered by the Public Assistance Committee - Ty Bryn, Trodegar, Cooder, Griffithstown, Regent House, Chepstow.

LAW MEDICAL OUT RELIEF.

Orthopaedic treatment is carried out under the supervision of Consultants - Mr. A. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., of Harleystreet, Carmarthen, and Mr. D.N. Rocyn Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.. Details of examinations will be found under the heading "Orthopaedic Treatment".

CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

There were 721 mental defectives on the County Register for the year 1941, 198 of them are in Certified Institutions, 18 under Guardianship and on licence. A detailed annual report is published separately.

MIDWIVES.

The number of Midwives upon the County Roll at the 31st December, 1941, was 170.

INFANT MORTALITY, HEALTH VISITING, CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

Any matters under these heads requiring special comment is dealt with in the County Maternity and Child Welfare Annual Report for 1941.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

Details of examinations of school children and children under 15 years of age will be found in the County Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Annual Reports for the year 1941.

The services of the Consultants - Mr. A. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., and Mr. D.N. Rocyn Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., - are also available for adult cases, the following examinations being made during the year:-

	<u>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES</u>	<u>OTHER ADULT CASES</u>
Mr. A. Rocyn Jones	8	22
Mr. D.N. Rocyn Jones	151	36

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Four Nursing Homes were registered and exemption from registration granted in 9 instances. No powers were delegated to district committees under Section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

LYDIA BEYNON MATERNITY HOSPITAL. The Coldra, together with 7½ acres of land was gifted to the Monmouthshire County Council by Sir John Beynon, C.B.E., on the 30th November, 1924, for the purpose of a Maternity Hospital in memory of his mother. The adaptation of the Coldra as a Maternity Hospital marks another step in the steady march of this County towards a reduction of the high incidence of maternal mortality - a matter which has been of grave concern for many years as the Maternal Death rates for this County have consistently been higher than that of England and Wales. Every effort is being made to reduce this unfavourable incidence.

The Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital was formally opened on the 22nd January, 1940, for the reception of cases of difficult labour. Co-operation between the Ante Natal Clinics and this Hospital will have far reaching effects upon Maternal Mortality in the County.

375 complicated obstetrical cases were admitted to the Hospital during the year 1941. 295 admitted through the County Ante Natal Clinics and 80 were Emergency cases.

Llanfrechfa Grange Maternity Home. This home is administered by the County Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health, for the reception primarily of evacuee expectant mothers. County patients, whose homes are for various reasons unsuitable for their confinements, are also admitted.

The Maternity Home was opened in November, 1940. 31 births took place there in 1941. There are 40 beds. There is a Medical Officer Dr. Sylvia Lucas, who visits the Home daily and an Obstetric Surgeon, Dr. Glyn Morgan, on call when required. Professor Strachan is also available for specially difficult cases.

Other Maternity Homes and Hospitals. Patients were sent by the Council to other Maternity Hospitals when the Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital was full or closed, as follows:- Cardiff Royal Infirmary 6, Royal Gwent Hospital 1, Abergavenny Cottage Hospital 1.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. Full details are given in previous reports.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE. Full details are given in previous reports.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Progress still continues to be made in the conversion of privies, pail closets, etc., into water closets, this being possible where subsidiary sewers have been provided by the various local Authorities.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of house refuse varies according to the conditions prevailing in the various districts. Usually the refuse is collected two or three times a week. In most instances the work is done by motor lorries fitted with suitable covers.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Mr. J. Jenkin Evans, M.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., the County Sanitary Inspector assists the County Medical Officer in his sanitary investigations.

SHOPS.

Improvements are still being effected under the various Acts and Orders etc., for the improvement of the health and comfort of workers in shops. The Factories Act, 1937, which came into operation on the 1st July, 1939, has secured a general improvement in the conditions of factories and work-places.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

New swimming baths and pools in the County are on modern lines with up to date filtration and cleansing plants. Facilities are available at the County Public Health Laboratory for the examination of water from swimming baths and pools.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions of schools is subject to District Sanitary Inspections, whilst the School Medical Officers and the County Sanitary Inspector also deal with it at their periodical visits to the schools. The special survey by the School Medical Officers of school buildings which commenced in 1925, was continued, and during the year 1941 all school buildings visited by the School Medical Officers were inspected and a summary of the reports is given in detail in the County Education Annual Report for the year 1941.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1932.

During the year the East Dorsetshire Joint Planning Committee made the Wye Valley Preservation Scheme (part of Dorset Rural District) and adopted the Municipal Borough Draft Scheme. Progress was also made upon the preliminary work in connection with the Dorset Municipal Borough Scheme. An aerodrome report for the County was also prepared.

ADULTERATION, etc.

Samples of foodstuffs, including butter, milk, margarine, etc., were sent to Mr. G. Rudd Thompson, F.I.C., Dock Street, Newport, who is the Public Analyst appointed for the County. At a meeting of the Works and General Purposes Committee, held on the 13th July, 1920, it was decided that the County Medical Officer should exercise general supervision over the action to be taken in pursuance of the Acts and Regulations under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and that the County Analyst, and if necessary the Clerk should confer as to the details necessary to secure observance of the Acts and Regulations.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Full details of the work carried out under the above Act will be found in the Reports of the Chief Inspector to the General Purpose Committee of the County Council.

The following is the portion dealing with the examination of food samples.

During the year 1009 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these 329 New Milk, 5 Appeal to Cow, 13 in course of Transit and 1 other foodstuffs.

43 samples or 2.56% were certified to be Not up to Standard.

The Freezing Point showed in the case of two samples and a corresponding Appeal to Cow sample that they were of abnormal composition.

I am pleased to report, that, the percentage of adulteration is again slightly lower than that of last year.

Two samples of Egg Substitutes were found to be not in accordance with the description on the labels.

AVERAGE COMPOSITION OF MILK SAMPLES.

Fat 3.62% Solids not Fat 8.81% Total 12.43%.

The total amount of Fines and Costs collected is £115.12.0.

A careful watch is still being kept on new articles of Food now appearing on the market, particularly in respect of the markings on the packets and labels.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE

Isolation Hospitals.

Full details of Isolation Hospitals in the County will be found in the Annual Report for 1938.

Infectious Diseases, 1941.

The seven principal Zymotic Diseases are Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (including Typhus, Enteric and Continued Fevers) and Diarrhoea (under 2 years).

These diseases caused 104 deaths and gave a Zymotic death-rate of 316 for the County, as compared with a rate of .341 for 1940, .18 for 1939, .18 for 1938, .24 for the year 1937, .26 for 1936, .34 for 1935 and .46 for 1934.

The following table shows the death and attack (notification) rate for Zymotic Diseases in the County of Monmouth during the year 1941.

	No. of deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 of population.	No. of notifications.	Attack Rate per 1000 population.
Small Pox	NIL		NIL	
Measles (including German Measles).	21	.064	4938	15.010
Scarlet Fever.	3	.009	483	1.484
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).	25	.076	602	1.830
Whooping Cough.	20	.061	1312	3.987
Fever (including Typhus, Enteric and Continued Fevers).	2	.006	26	0.079
Diarrhoea.	33	.100	not notifiable.	-
	104	.316	7361	22.340

SMALL POX.

No case of Small-pox was reported during the year 1941.

VACCINATION.

Under the Local Government Act, 1929, the functions relating to Vaccination came under the control of the County Council as and from the 1st April, 1930, as one of the duties relating to infant life protection and public health, and which were formerly discharged by the Poor Law Authorities. This has the effect of making it obligatory to discharge vaccination functions under Public Health and not Poor Law powers. Since the transfer of these functions the work has been administered by the County Medical Officer, and all reports relating to Vaccination are submitted to him. According to the instructions of the Registrar-General, the following is a summary of the information made by the Vaccination Officers relating to children whose births were registered during the year 1940.

	Per cent.
Successfully vaccinated	21.5
Insusceptible to vaccination	.09
Had Small-pox	Nil
Declaration of Conscientious Objection received.	63.3
Died unvaccinated	4.6
Postponement by Medical Certificate	1.1
Removal to districts, the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly apprised	1.5
Removal to places unknown	2.3
Number of cases not included under any of the above-named headings	5.5

SCARLET FEVER.

There has been a decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet fever during the year, 483 cases being notified, as compared with 524 in 1939, 1198 in 1938, 890 in 1937, and 841 in 1936. In 1941 there was one death, in 1940 there was 1 death, in 1939 3 deaths, in 1938 2 deaths, in 1937 1 death, in 1936 3 deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year 1941 was 602 which is a decrease compared with the figure for the previous year, when the number was 624. During 1939, 497 cases were notified; in 1938 368 cases; in 1937, 444 cases; in 1936, 362 cases. The deaths notified in 1941 were 25, in 1940 44; in 1939 24; 1938, 18; 1937, 14; 1936, 19; and in 1935, 34.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Twenty-six cases of Enteric Fever were notified in the year 1941; in 1940 there were six cases; in 1939, 8 cases; in 1938, 11 cases; in 1937, 5 cases; in 1936, 21 cases; 1935, 18 cases. Two deaths were notified in the year 1941. The cases notified to the County Medical Officer occurred in Abercarn, Abergavenny, Abertillery, Bedwellty, Bryn Vale, Nantyglo & Blaina, Pontypool, Rhymney and Risca, Urban Districts.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 79 cases of Erysipelas notified during the year 1941, compared with 81 cases in 1940; 97 in 1939; 100 in 1938; 101 in 1937; 93 in 1935. The disease was fairly evenly spread throughout the Urban areas of the County.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year 1941, notifications of 52 cases of Puerperal Fever, were received under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, from the District Medical Officers of Health.

INFANTILE DIARRHOEA.

A number of cases of this disease were discovered during visits made through the year. Thirty-three deaths were registered in children under two years of age, giving a death-rate of .100 per 100 population. All cases of which the Health Visitor has knowledge were visited, but it is obvious that very many cases do not come to her notice. This disease is not notifiable.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Three cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified during the year; in 1940 there were 4 cases; in 1939 there was one case; in 1938 there were no cases; 2 cases were notified in 1937; 1 case in 1936; 5 cases in 1935. Five deaths were recorded in 1941, compared with 5 in 1940, 10 in 1939, 1 in 1938, 6 in 1937 and 1 in 1936.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Fifty cases were notified under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, as compared with 64 cases in 1940, 48 cases in 1939, 35 cases in 1938, and 24 cases in 1937. Further details are given in the Maternity and Child Welfare Reports.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER AND ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

104 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever were notified to the County Medical Officer during the year 1941, as compared with 213 during the year 1940, and 105 cases in 1939. The number of deaths recorded during the year was 15. The cases were notified from the following Urban Districts - Abercarn, Abergavenny, Abertillery, Bodwas and Machon, Bodwelly, Blaenavon, Caerlloan, Chopstow, Cwmbran, Ebbw Vale, Monmouth, Mynyddislwyn, Na ntyglo and Blaina, Pontypool, Risca, Trodegar and Abergavenny, Chopstow, Magor & St. Mellons and Monmouth Rural Districts.

There were 4 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis during the year, two deaths were recorded.

CHICKEN POX.

The disease is not compulsorily notifiable.

MEASLES.

Measles has been a notifiable disease since October, 1939. 4938 cases were notified during the year 1941. In 1940, 4052 cases were notified, in 1939 243 cases. Twenty-one deaths were recorded during the year as compared with fifteen in 1940, 13 in 1939, 6 in 1938 and 17 in 1937.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This disease has been notifiable since October, 1939. 133 cases were reported in 1941, and 494 in 1940. The number of deaths was 20 compared with 14 in 1940; 16 in 1939, and 10 in 1938.

INFLUENZA.

Information regarding the number of cases is difficult to obtain. The number of deaths in 1941 was 113, compared with 83 in 1940, and 93 in 1939.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PNEUMONIA, MALARIA, DYSENTERY, ETC.,) REGULATIONS

378 cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year 1941 compared with 278 cases in 1940 and 225 in 1939. There were 18 deaths in 1941; 209 in 1940, 214 in 1939. The notification of the disease is by no means satisfactory, and the figures relating to the number of notifications are no indication of the number of persons who actually suffered from the disease. The attention of the medical practitioners of the County is continually being brought to the duties under these Regulations. No cases of malaria or dysentery were notified during the year.

SCABIES.

Owing to War conditions and the prevalence of Scabies in the County, the Minister of Health in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 33a of the Defence (General) Regulation,

made an order, "The Scabies Order, 1941". This Order confers powers on the 28th October, 1941, and provides for notification to Medical Officers of Health by registered Medical practitioners and others, of verminous persons and premises. It also confers on Medical Officers of Health certain compulsory powers for dealing with Scabies, and all other verminous conditions.

In effect this Order considerably strengthens the powers given to County Councils and Local Sanitary Authorities under the Public Health Act, 1936, for dealing with filthy or verminous persons and premises, and should prove to be of great value at this time.

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer recorded during the year 1941 was 494, in 1940, 413 deaths, in 1939 there were 411 deaths; in 1938, 444 deaths; in 1937, 345 deaths; in 1936, 433 deaths; in 1935, 422 deaths; in 1934 397 deaths. As in previous years, practically the whole of the deaths occurred in persons between the ages of 45 and 65 and upwards.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Arrangements are made under the Section of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the examination of persons with a view to the prevention of blindness, and assistance is granted by the appropriate Committee of the County Council. Spectacles are provided upon the recommendation of the Ophthalmic Surgeon and arrangements are made, where necessary, for operations to be performed, also the treatment in Hospital of persons ordinarily resident within the County and suffering from any disease of, or injury to the eyes.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations (1930) and in the year 1941, 167 primary cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, and 167 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis, 132 cases notified and 49 deaths registered.

The total number of notifications received during the year was 167 Pulmonary and 136 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis of which 11 and 4 respectively were duplicates. Cases are sometimes notified to the District Medical Officers of Health by the patient's Medical Attendant also by the Tuberculosis Physician, during the same week.

Registered deaths from Tuberculosis were again compared with the notifications by the District Medical Officers of Health, and when it was found that a death registered by the District Registrar had not been notified by the District Medical Officer of Health, it was included in the same return of new cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer otherwise than by formal notification under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1930. Examination of these returns showed that there are still some District Medical Officers of Health who are not furnishing the Department with particulars of cases of Tuberculosis in spite of the repeated efforts made by the staff of the County Public Health Department.

It will be observed from the table included below that there is a decrease in the notification rates for Pulmonary Tuberculosis and a decrease in the notification rates for Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The high notification rates can be attributed to the efforts of the County Health Department in obtaining as far as possible correct records of Tuberculosis cases occurring in the districts from the District Medical Officers of Health.

Regarding the death rate from Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, there has been a decrease in the rate for Pulmonary cases and the rate for Non-Pulmonary cases also shows a decrease.

The following table giving the notification rates and death rates per 1,000 of the estimated population is submitted for the purpose of comparison:-

Year	Notification Rate per 1,000 of population.		Death rate per 1,000 of population.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1935	1.03	.32	.68	.14
1936	.80	.30	.57	.14
1937	.94	.35	.65	.13
1938	1.01	.44	.60	.14
1939	1.25	.48	.64	.101
1940	1.60	.49	.57	.13
1941	1.12	.40	.51	.15

The detailed reports of the Tuberculosis Physicians are not included in this abridged report, but full information of the work carried out by these Officers in Monmouthshire of the Welsh National Memorial Association will be found in the Quarterly reports of the County Tuberculosis Committee, and in more detail in the Annual Report of the Welsh National Memorial Association.

Summary of notifications by District Medical Officers of Health to the County Medical Officer, under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, during the period 1st January, 1941, to the 31st December, 1941, with the number of Deaths notified by the Registrar General.

Age Periods	Primary Notifications on Form A.					Age Periods	Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Males	Females
0	0	1	1	2	4	0	-	-	1	1
1	0	0	16	10	26					
5	2	4	15	8	29	1	-	-	8	6
10	5	10	9	3	27					
15	39	33	10	10	92	5	2	4	4	2
20	38	36	9	5	87					
25	32	58	5	14	109	15	43	73	16	6
35	31	28	4	1	64					
45	20	7	2	3	32	45	24	13	1	4
55	13	6	1	2	22					
65 and Upwards	5	1	1	1	8	65	8	1	0	0
	185	184	73	59	400		77	91	30	19

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the period 1st January, 1941, to the 31st December, 1941, otherwise than by formal notification under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930.

Age Periods	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & upwards	TOTAL Cases
Pulmonary Males	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2	6
Pulmonary Females	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	-	6
Non-Pulmonary Males	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Non-Pulmonary Females	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

Source of above Information.	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
(from local Registrars	12	5
Death Returns (transferable deaths from Registrar General.	-	-
Posthumous notifications.	-	-
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	-	-
Other Sources, if any.	-	-

From the above it will be seen that 17 non-notified deaths from tuberculosis were discovered through examination of the death Returns received from the District Registrars.

VENEREAL DISEASES:

The following is a summary of the work carried out at the Treatment Centre for the Administrative County at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, Dr. P.C.P. Ingram and Dr. Mary Gordon.

In June, 1941, an extra half-day Session per week was opened for the treatment of venereal disease among the women and children of Monmouthshire. The increase in the number of new cases of Gonorrhoea and Syphilis - particularly in the latter disease - made it necessary to start this additional session.

Probably the figures for Gonorrhoea are not a true judge of the amount of that disease actually present in the County as the symptoms of gonorrhoea are often so slight that they pass un-noticed by the patient, even though she may be in an infectious and contagious state. She may be capable, if she is an expectant mother, of passing on the disease to her infant producing a very severe inflammation of the eyes known as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

To counteract this war-time danger of Ophthalmia Neonatorum a reminder has been sent out by the County Medical Officer of Health to all midwives in the County pointing out that at the slightest sign of inflammation or discharge from the eyes of a baby under her care, it is her duty to call in a registered medical practitioner.

All expectant mothers suffering from Gonorrhoea are advised to have their confinement in hospital - they can then not only have treatment themselves, but particular care is taken of the baby's eyes at birth. Beds are available at Regent House, Chepstow, and Ty Bryn Institution, Tredegar. The majority of expectant mothers avail themselves of this opportunity but there are some who do not, and, as they cannot travel to the Clinic at the Hospital, they run the risk of infecting their babies at birth. The County District Medical Officers, Health Visitors and Midwives all co-operate satisfactorily in the care of the expectant mothers with Gonorrhoea.

The work accomplished during the year by the Lady Enquiry Officer, Nurse E.M. Walters, was as follows:-

Number of visits paid in the Administrative County :-

	1940	1941
To new cases which came to her knowledge and which had not undergone treatment.	194	
To old cases in which visit to the Treatment Centre had been discontinued before completion of treatment, also to old cases still under treatment.	739	1
To members of voluntary Agencies, District Nurses etc.	90	

1. COUNTY LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL.

Return of Specimens examined.

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	1941										Total	Provi- year 194
	For ection of Spiro- chaetes	For det- ection of Gonoco- cci.	For det- ection of Fixat- ion Test (Gono- rrhoea).	Com- ple- ment ion (Syphi- lis).	For Wasser- mann react- ion (Syphi- lis).	Other exam- inat- ions.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
From County of Monmouth Treatment Centre Practitioners	52 3	7 1	328 77	2537 218	61 37	88 25	371 504	453 258	14 21	41 7	3952 1151	37 7
From County Borough of Newport Treatment Centre Practitioners	6 1	6 1	382 39	859 94	79 31	18 7	329 221	204 101	13 9	7 6	1961 510	18 6
From Other Districts Glamorganshire	-	-	5	2	-	-	2	2	-	-	11	
Brocon	8	-	6	-	-	-	37	5	-	-	56	
Gloucestershire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cardiff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Military Authorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
T O T A L S	128	15	867	3710	200	138	1464	1023	57	61	7641	69

No. of doses of substitutes for Salvarsan supplied to Medical Practitioners

		1941	1940
Novarsenobillon	.6 gm.	32	-
	.45 gm.	4	-
	.3 gm.	2	-
	Totals	38	-
Stabilarsen (Boots)	.6 gm.	-	20
	.45 gm.	-	20
	.4 gm.	-	-
	.3 gm.	-	-
		-	40
Sulphostab	.6 gm.	20	-
"	.45 gm.	-	11
"	.36 gm.	-	-
"	.3 gm.	-	-
"	.24 gm.	-	-
"	.18 gm.	-	-
"	.15 gm.	-	-
		20	11

The number of practitioners upon the register for the supply of salvarsan substitutes is twenty-four.

2. TREATMENT CENTRE.

(Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport).

Returns of the Medical Officer of Centre, to the Medical Officer of Health relating to persons residing in the Administrative County of Monmouth.

	1947			1946		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Number of persons dealt with at or in connection with the Out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be :-						
Suffering from Syphilis	45	35	80	35	21	56
" " Soft Chancre	6	-	6	11	-	11
" " Gonorrhoea	80	95	175	77	68	145
Not suffering from Ven. Diseases	45	133	178	45	97	142
T O T A L S	176	263	439	168	186	354
Number of persons discharged from the Out-Pat. Clinic after completion of Treatment :-						
Syphilis	7	3	10	6	1	7
Soft Chancre	3	-	3	9	-	9
Gonorrhoea	50	35	85	60	26	86
Not Suffering from Ven.Diseases	37	107	144	38	79	117
T O T A L S	97	145	242	113	106	219
Number of persons who ceased to attend the Out-Patient Clinic without completing treatment, and who were suffering from:-						
Syphilis	24	24	48	22	25	47
Soft Chancre	2	-	2	1	-	1
Gonorrhoea	44	44	88	51	42	93
Not suffering from Ven. Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	70	68	138	74	67	141
Total attendances of all persons at the Out-Patient Clinic who were:-						
Suffering from Syphilis	1722	1439	3161	1391	1274	2665
" " Soft Chancre	33	-	33	66	-	66
" " Gonorrhoea	935	1265	2251	1772	1027	2799
Not suffering from Ven. Disease	75	383	458	114	285	399
T O T A L S	2816	3087	5903	3343	2586	5929
Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of treatment given to persons suffering from :-						
Syphilis	137	30	167	271	29	300
Gonorrhoea	74	617	691	84	641	725
Soft Chancre	9	-	9	-	-	-
Not suffering from Ven.Disease	10	-	10	18	-	18
Observation Cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	228	647	877	373	670	1043
Number of persons treated with Salvarsan substitutes	75	75	150	62	69	131

	1941			1940	
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.
7. Number of doses of Salvarsan subs. given :-					
Name of Drugs					
Novarsenobillon					
Stabilarsan					
Kharsulphan					
Sulphostab					
Arsene Argenticum					
dose .05	-	8	8	-	-
dose .1	-	4	4	3	-
dose .15	-	3	3	-	1
dose .2	-	43	43	8	41
dose .25	-	45	45	-	-
dose .3	13	106	119	24	74
dose .45	181	231	412	118	173
dose .6	242	19	261	82	16
dose .75	59	-	59	18	-
Name of Drug - Bismuth dose .2 gm.	813	530	1343	356	327
Quinostabo (sol.) dose .3 gm.	294	97	391	298	178
T O T A L S	1602	1086	2688	907	810

8. Examination of Pathological material					
Specimens from persons attending at the Treatment Centre which were sent for examination to an independent Laboratory					
For Detection of spirochaetes	52	7	59	37	2
" " " gonococci	328	2537	2865	480	2144
For Wassermann reaction	371	453	824	174	140
Complement Fixation Test	61	88	149	354	387
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	6	6	12	9	5
Others	8	35	43	5	9
T O T A L S	826	3126	3952	1059	2687

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This work has been dealt with in the special report which has been published.

BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920 and 1938.

The number of blind persons upon the County Register at the 31st March, 1942, was 744, 358 males and 386 females.

The Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon to this Authority, Dr. W. J. Roche, examined at his Consulting Room, Newport, 175 cases which were referred to this Department for examination under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938. The results of his examinations were 72 certified blind, 56 not blind and in 47 cases glasses were prescribed in order to prevent blindness. In addition the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon performed 7 operations for cataract at the County Hospital, Panteg.

Dr. Evelyn D. Owen, Assistant Medical Officer made 24 domiciliary examinations as the cases were unable to travel to Newport, 17 of them were blind, 7 not blind.

Grants are made to the unemployable blind after consideration of the cases by the Blind Persons Act, Sub-Committee, of the Public Health Committee, and during the financial year 1941 - 1942, weekly grants were made to 413 persons, the total amount of the grants being £15,577.

The Association for the Blind of the County Borough of Newport and the Administrative County of Monmouth continues to provide social amenities for the blind persons.

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COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER.